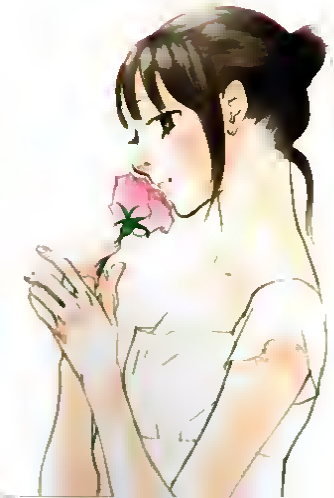
Kiss & Never Cry Volume 06 Chapter 33



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Evil Flowers

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Step4. Kiss & Secrets
ARRÊT

BUM, BUM, BUM, BUM!
LISTEN TO THE RHYTHM MORE!
THE ACCENTS ARE IMPORTANT!
GO DOWN.
YES!

SHAA
SHAA
AH

HEY! DON'T FLIT AROUND WHILE WE'RE MOVING TO MUSIC.
BE MORE CAREFUL!
THUNK
HUP!
YOU OKAY?
YEAH.
SHA
SHA
SHA
I'M SORRY ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

HIKARU-SAN. HE'S NINE YEARS YOUNGER THAN YOU. NINE YEARS.
JUST NOW THAT LITTLE BOY COMPLETELY IGNORED ME. . .

AH, YES, I'M OKAY.
THAT'S GOOD. BYE-BYE.
And I take my hands away.

. . . . . .
AND NOW WE'RE IN CANADA, PRACTICING.
IT'S TRUE. MY BREAKDOWN DIDN'T PREVENT US FROM A FULL ENTRY INTO THE GRAND PRIX SERIES,

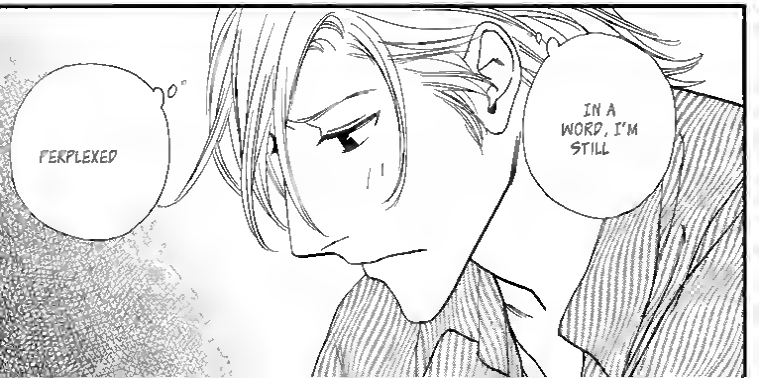
EVEN THOUGH THINGS ARE GOING SO WELL.
YOU'RE SO IRRITABLE LATELY, HIKARU-SAN. . .

AND WE'RE SPLITTING THE PRICE OF THE RINK WITH THOSE CANADIAN BRATS, SO IT'S COMPARATIVELY CHEAP.
MARIE'S NEW VILLA IS MORE OF A MANSION, AND IT'S CLOSE TO THE RINK

BUT...THE THING THAT I CAN'T DEAL WITH...
AND, MORE THAN ANYTHING, MY KNEE IS HEALING NICELY.
SO IT WAS YOU.
SQUID SOUP...
IS WHY CAN'T ANYONE HERE MAKE A DECENT MEAL?! (INCLUDING ME!)
INCIDENTALLY, WHOSE TURN IS IT TODAY?! AND WHAT IS THIS CREATIVE COOKERY?
HEY, YOUR FRENCHIFIED ENGLISH IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND, TOO!
FOR STARTERS, MY NAME ISN'T IKARU! IF IT'S TOO DIFFICULT FOR YOU, PRACTICE SOME OF THESE: HARA, HORO, HIRE, HARE!!
YOU'RE SO IMMATURE HIKARU-SAN
WHAT IS IKARU MAD ABOUT?
HE SAYS THE FOOD IS BAD
HMMM GOOD FOR YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING HIS TERRIBLE ENGLISH
HIKARU-SAN HE'S NINE YEARS YOUR JUNIOR NINE YEARS
NO WAY!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, HOW ABOUT I CALL YOU KARU AND HER CHIRU?

I WAS THE MOST BLISSFUL, IGNORANT FOOL IN THE WORLD
I ATE HER UP, NOT KNOWING THE CONCEALED PAIN AND POISON...
I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING, AND I WAS COMPLETELY ABSORBED IN HER...

SO WHAT ABOUT NOW?



Dear Lena,
This is our sixth day in Canada. I'm doing my best to write in English. Please correct me if I make any mistakes.
MYLENE,
WHAT'S THIS CALLED IN ENGLISH?
"TODAY WAS MY TURN TO COOK SO I MADE IKA SOUP."
HUH? WHAT'S "IKA" IN ENGLISH?
NOSTRIL HAIR...?
THANKS
"I MADE NOSTRIL HAIR SOUP..."

They got 5th place at Junior World's. According to Dandoy-sensei, they were really shocked by their low placement and decided to change coaches.
But I feel like there's something else going on there...
Mylene and Fabian, who we're practicing with, are Quebeckers
WHAT DID SHE JUST SAY?
I didn't know, but they won at Canada's Nationals
SFX TURN TURN TURN TURN
They're childhood friends who have been skating together since they were eight years old.
I always think, when I watch them practice...
WELL, THEY'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR TEN YEARS
THEIR SYNCHRONICITY IS AMAZING

If Leon and I had kept doing ice dance together,
maybe we'd be like that...
HEY, HEY, IKARU
ANNOYED
THERE'S NO ONE HERE BY THAT NAME
YEAH, YEAH, IT'S BEDTIME FOR LITTLE ONES
ARE YOU AND MICHIRU DATING?
IT'S HARD TO APPROACH HER IF I DON'T KNOW THAT STUFF

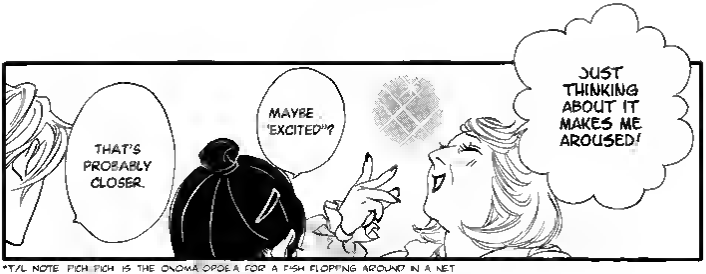
*SFX SIT UP
YOU'RE MAD, SO YOU ARE GOING OUT?
NO!
"APPROACH"? YOU COULDN'T BE THINKING OF PLOTTING THE MOVES ON MICHIRU!
LISTEN UP. I'M LIKE A FATHER TO HER.
I'M NOT GONNA LET A FALSE-EYELASHED BASTARD LIKE YOU LAY ONE FINGER ON HER!
SOMEHOW
SAYING THAT FELT REALLY NATURAL.
THAT'S SO MEAN. MY EYELASHES ARE REAL
Doesn't it feel soft in your eyes?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHY ARE JAPANESE PEOPLE'S EYELASHES SO SHORT?
HUH?

USE YOUR HIPS MORE!
PUT THE STRESS RIGHT ON THE BEAT!
AH, HIKARU-SAN, LOOK...
THEIR FREE DANCE IS ALREADY DOWN PAT
A GENDER-REVERSED LIFT?! IN A COMPETITIVE PROGRAM?
I SEE, IT'S THEIR LAST LIFT, SO IT DOESN'T COUNT FOR POINTS ANYWAY...
WHOOSH

THE LAST LIFT DOESN'T COUNT FOR POINTS.
WHY, YOU... I JUST SAID THAT.
WITH THE NEW RULES, YOU CAN INCORPORATE A LIFT THAT WEAVES INTO THE MUSICAL MOTIF OR SHOWS INDIVIDUALITY.
SO WHAT YOU LACK IN COMPONENT POINTS, YOU CAN MAKE UP FOR WITH COMPOSITION AND GET RECOGNITION FOR YOUR CHOREOGRAPHY.
THEN I'M SURE.
LEON WOULD MAKE HIS EXCITING AND ARTISTIC.
MAYBE...
YES, MA'AM.
MICHIRU, HIKARU, PLEASE COME TO THE AUDIO ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR WHEN YOU'RE DONE CLEANING UP.

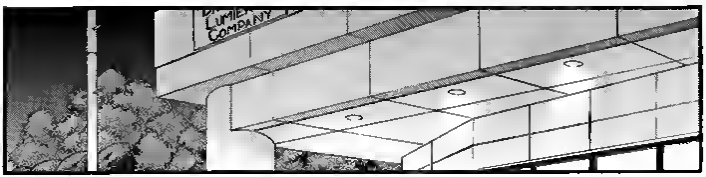
IT'S BEEN EDITED FOR YOUR FREE DANCE
YES.
THIS IS... UH... "SALOME"...
BUT, MARIE, WE...
IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO ROB THE WORLD OF THAT IMAGE.
MICHIRU'S SALOME WAS WONDERFUL
DANDOY-SENSEI CHOREOGRAPHED EVERYTHING FOR THAT BUT THE ELEMENTS
HUH?! I WAS SURE IT WAS TAKAGI-SAN...
FOR OUR FREE DANCE? BUT THIS WAS YOUR SINGLE'S PROGRAM.
BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT THIS SEASON.
I HEARD THAT YOU WANTED TO DO VERDI'S "REQUIEM"
IT'S TRUE THAT THAT SONG IS PERFECT FOR THE TWO OF YOU

IS OLYMPICS SEASON!
BECAUSE NEXT YEAR
THE OLYMPICS...
GULP
RANJUEZ
SWAN LAKE
TOSCA
CARMEN
YOU TWO WILL SKATE "REQUIEM" FOR YOUR BIG MOMENT... IT'LL BE WONDERFUL
THAT'S RIGHT!
EVERYONE CHOOSES A "BATTLE SONG" DURING OLYMPICS SEASON, SOMETHING THAT EXACTLY SUITS THEM.



*T/L NOTE: PICHI-PICHI IS THE ONOMATOPOEIA FOR A FISH FLOPPING AROUND IN A NET

SO, YOU HAVE TO PLACE WELL AT WORLD'S
FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL HAVE TO TRAIN WITH BURSTING ENERGY (PICHI-PICHI)*!
I THINK YOU MEAN "DILIGENTLY" (ISHI-ISHI).

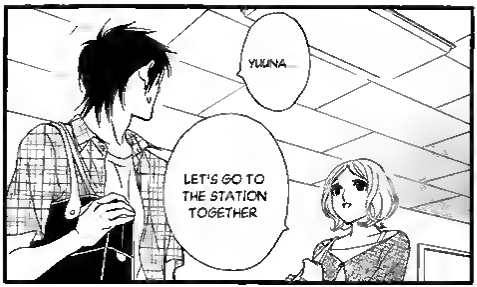


YOU WERE ABLE TO DO IT YESTERDAY. CONCENTRATE!
I'M SORRY
JUST DO THE COUNT FROM THE BEGINNING AGAIN.
LEON!
YUUNA, HOLD YOUR LEFT LEG IN THAT POSITION A LITTLE LONGER.
DID I TELL YOU TO DANCE IT THAT WAY THERE?
SORRY
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
It's been a whole month. ...
Since I've heard Michiru's voice.
It's already July

The last time I saw her was...
YOU'RE KUROKI MICHIRU-SAN, AREN'T YOU?!
I'VE SEEN A LOT OF DVDS OF YOU AT LEON'S HOUSE.
I LOVE FIGURE SKATING
MICHIRU...
I SHOULD GET GOING...I NEED TO CHANGE
OH, OKAY, UM
THANK YOU! KEEP ON DOING YOUR BEST!
♪
HEY, DO YOU THINK SHE'LL GIVE ME AN AUTO-GRAPH?
Eh-he!
AH...UM, I DON'T KNOW
OH, IT'S OKAY

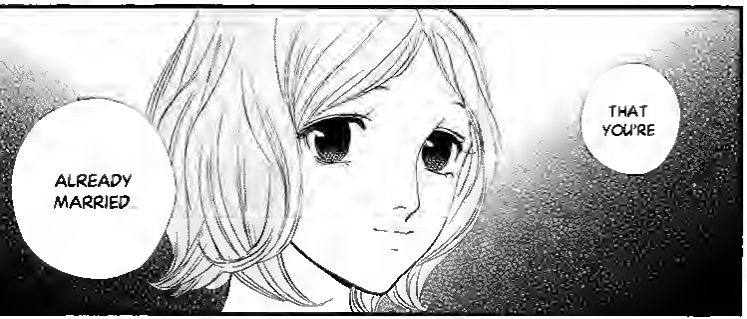
In the first place, what was I making an excuse for, and how?
SHUT
But I couldn't even make an excuse to her... I mean...
After that, I called her on some silly pretense...
I DON'T THINK IT'S OKAY TO LOOK AT YOUR TEAM-MATES THAT WAY
SO YOU TWO REALLY AREN'T GOING OUT?
OH, THERE'S THE HONOR STUDENT IN HIM!
HEY, YUUNA HAS A PRETTY SEXY BODY, HUH?
SHE'S NOT THE MUSCLEY TYPE THAT DANCERS USUALLY ARE.
SHE'S THIN BUT HAS BOOBS, RIGHT, LEON?
BUT SHE TOTALLY ACTS LIKE SHE'S IN LOVE WITH YOU
AGAIN? YOU SURE DON'T KNOW WHEN TO LET GO
AND SHE WAS WITH YOU THE WHOLE TIME IN BELGIUM...
Right?

YOU'RE ALREADY MAD...
SLAM
WHAT'S HE SO PISSED ABOUT?
IF YOU MAKE ME SAY IT AGAIN, I'M GONNA GET MAD!
WE DID GET ALONG WHEN WE STUDIED ABROAD, BUT A FRIEND IS A FRIEND!
BEHIND HIS BEHAVIOR IS A BIG SECRET...
MY FAVORITE!!
What's worth that smile?
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING YOURSELF, TAKESHI SAN
THEY'VE SEEN LEON'S DARK PAST!!
CREAK
YEAH... HE'S PISSED
SIGH


YUUNA...
LET'S GO TO THE STATION TOGETHER

LEON.

TELL HIM WHAT?
BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULD AT LEAST TELL TAKESHI-SAN...
UM... HEY... THE OTHER GUYS DON'T MATTER,


ALREADY MARRIED...
THAT YOU'RE

EVERYONE THINKS YOU... UH... HOW SHALL I PUT IT...
BECAUSE... I DON'T THINK IT'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO HIDE
WHY...?

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS MY SECRET
AND...
IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME IF THEY SAY THINGS LIKE THAT
HAVE ULTERIOR MOTIVES?
AH, YEAH, THAT'S IT DOESN'T IT PUT YOU IN AN AWKWARD POSITION, TOO?
Since you're someone's wife and all
U
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS YOUR SECRET...
RIGHT?
RICHARD STRAUSS'S OPERA, "SALOME"—

"THE HEAD OF JOHN THE BAPTIST"

HERODIAS'S DAUGHTER FROM HER PREVIOUS MARRIAGE, SALOME, RAN AWAY IN THE MIDDLE OF A BANQUET TO ESCAPE KING HEROD'S LUSTFUL GAZE,

AND WENT TO SEE JOHN THE BAPTIST.

KING HEROD KILLED HIS OLDER BROTHER AND MARRIED HIS WIFE, HERODIAS.

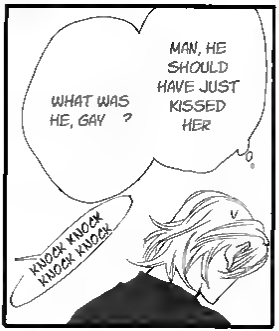
JOHN THE BAPTIST CRITICIZED THE MARRIAGE AND WAS IMPRISONED IN AN OLD WELL.

SALOME WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM AND WANTED TO KISS HIM, BUT HE INSULTED HER AND WOULDN'T EVEN LOOK AT HER, BELIEVING HER TO BE SOILED.

KING HEROD HAD PROMISED SALOME ANYTHING SHE WANTED IF SHE WOULD DANCE FOR HIM, SO SHE PERFORMED THE DANCE OF THE SEVEN VEILS

SHE ASKED HIM FOR SOMETHING TRULY TERRIFYING.

"ON A SILVER PLATTER."


I'M GOING TO BE THIS JOHN THE BAPTIST, AREN'T I ?
SEDUCED, BEHEADED THIS IS SERIOUS
MAN, HE SHOULD HAVE JUST KISSED HER
WHAT WAS HE, GAY ?
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

WHAT'S WRONG? YOUR FACE IS ALL RED

SLAM

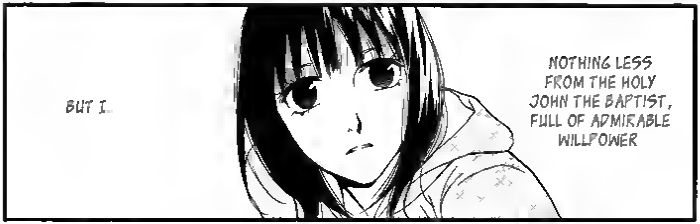
FABI AND MYLENE
WERE
KISSING

IT CAN'T BE HELPED. STAY HERE UNTIL HE COMES BACK, JUST IN CASE
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I HAVE SOME HERBAL TEA. DO YOU WANT ANY?
OKAY
EH?!
ARE THEY AN ITEM?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT I WENT TO THE KITCHEN TO GET A LATE-NIGHT SNACK. AND ON MY WAY BACK TO OUR ROOM, FABI WAS THERE
UH, I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS REALLY THE TIME TO SAY IT, BUT CUT IT OUT WITH THE LATE-NIGHT SNACKS.
I JUST TRIED TO GO BACK TO OUR ROOM, BUT I HEARD MICHIRU'S VOICE.
THEN YOU CAN STAY HERE UNTIL SHE COMES BACK, JUST IN CASE.
DO YOU WANT TO PRACTICE OUR ENDING POSE AGAIN?
They were just talking, it seems.
TH- THIS IS KIND OF UNCOMFORTABLE
AHH...
COME TO THINK OF IT, LEON'S PERFORMANCE IS IN SEPTEMBER, ISN'T IT?
SIP
.....

OH...
"OH"? ... DIDN'T HE EMAIL YOU ABOUT IT?
NO.
AHHHHH...
STEPPED RIGHT INTO IT...
WELL, IT'S STILL A WHILE OFF YOU MIGHT GET AN INVITATION OR SOMETHING!
IT COULD BE, YOU KNOW, A SURPRISE? OR SOMETHING?
FABI'S NOT COMING BACK
HONESTLY, THOSE TWO ARE A COUPLE OF KIDS, TOO...

SHOULD WE...
DO IT, TOO?
EH...?
DO YOU...
NOT FEEL ANYTHING FOR ME ANYMORE?

DON'T LOOK AT ME!
YOU ARE A HARLOT! YOU SHOULD BE CURSED!
BEGONE, DAUGHTER OF BABYLON!


BUT I...
NOTHING LESS FROM THE HOLY JOHN THE BAPTIST, FULL OF ADMIRABLE WILLPOWER

DON'T THINK I CAN BE A HOLY MAN.

(Evil Flowers Staff Member)
WHEN WILL THE NEXT CHAPTER BE READY?
MY PATIENCE IS RUNNING THIN.
S-
SORRY!
SORRY WON'T CUT IT. HMM...
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